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Trudi Thompson
Trudi Thompson

Applicant: Pol t al.

Serial No.: 09/551977

Filed: 04/14/2000

Title: COMPOSITIONS & METHODS
FOR GENERATING AN IMMUNE
RESPONSE UTILIZING
ALPHAVIRUS-BASED VECTOR
SYSTEMS

Examiner: B. Li

Group Art Unit: 1648

Atty Docket No.: 20263.333 (1593.004)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

RESPONSE TO REQUIREMENT FOR RESTRICTION

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Responsive to the Restriction Requirement dated May 30, 2001, Applicant responds as follows:

PROVISIONAL ELECTION UNDER 37 CFR §1.143

The Applicants provisionally elect to prosecute Group V, claims 17, 19-23 in the pending application. This election is made with traverse for the following reasons.

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT OF APPLICANT'S TRAVERSE

Applicants respectfully assert that the Examiner's claim grouping in the present application may unnecessarily increase the Examiner's searching burden, reduce claim searching efficacy and complicate divisional application prosecution. Therefore, the Applicants herein argue in favor of an alternate claim grouping strategy. As will be more fully developed below, the Applicants' proposed claim grouping provides the Examiner with claim sets that are more easily and meaningfully searched. Moreover, the proposed claim grouping will ease both the Examiner's and the Applicants' burden in divisional applications.

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